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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/903,680  
Applicant : NISHIDA et al.  
Filed: : July 13, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1733  
Examiner : Samchuan Cua Yao

Confirmation No.: 4286

Docket No. : 7390/71620  
Customer No. : 22242

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Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Customer Window, Mail Stop NON-Fee Amendment  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

February 16, 2004

## Supplemental Response

Sir:

Applicants supplement their prior responses to the December 18, 2003 requirement for restriction between Group I claims 1, 3, 6, 17-18 and Group II claims 2, 3-4, 6, 17-18, assuming patentably independent and distinct inventions based on a feature A and a feature B differentiating said Groups, by re-confirming Group I claims subject to the prior traverses, and subject to the understanding that the 'non-elected' claims will be rejoined upon indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 7-16 remain withdrawn from consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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